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REPORTS

OF THE

Selectmen, Town Treasurer,

OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF CHESTER,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEB'Y 15TH, 1870.

CHESTER, N. H.

B. T. COX, PRINTER.

1870.

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CONCORD, N. H.

REPORT

OF THE

Selectmen of Chester.

The Taxes assessed for A. D., 1869, are as follows, viz:

Town Tax,	\$2,801 08
State "	1,902 00
County "	1,131 00
School "	792 50
School-house Tax in Dist. No. 2,	50 00
Dog Tax,	46 00
	<hr/> \$6,722 58
Literary Fund, divided equally between the School Districts,	56 65

\$6,779 23

The Selectmen charge themselves with the following amount drawn from the Treasury, \$4,847 21
And account for the same, as follows, viz.

Improvement on Highways.

1869.

Paid B. F. Wilson, for re-building bridge, in Dist. No. 6,	\$53 36
B. F. Wilson, for repairing highway, same District,	2 75
N. B. Couch, for repairing bridge, same District,	2 85
Henry Mills, for plank and work on bridge, in Dist. No. 9,	5 96
James D. Lane, for work on road, in Dist. No. 13,	1 80
Asahel Weeks, for work on Birch road,	7 50
Noah Weeks, for work on road, in Dist. No. 14,	2 00
James T. Kendall, for working out Town Farm tax, and re-building bridge,	6 06
Osgood True, for 7 stringers and 765 feet plank, for bridge,	23 62
E. Hazelton, for 44 feet plank, and work on bridge,	1 50
Walter H. Noyes, for stone for bridge,	2 00
	—————\$109 40

Breaking Roads.

1868.

Paid James T. Kendall,	\$7 50
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1869.

A. B. Parker,	1 65
Moses Webster,	5 75
Parker Morse,	3 00
George W. Clark,	2 93
Henry Mills,	8 55
B. F. Wilson,	4 71

E. Hazelton,	1 50
George W. Weeks,	6 30
Asahel Weeks,	4 50
Osgood True,	7 65
George Cammet,	4 35
Noah Weeks,	3 00

William Crawford, in Districts No. 1
and 5, part last year, 11 00

William P. Underhill, 3 60

Henry H. Lane, 5 85

1870.

Barnard P. Robie, 1 12

Henry H. Lane, 6 75

James T. Kendall, 4 65

J. W. Smith, 6 68

Jason Spofford, 2 25

Charles H. Knowles, 8 21

Lewis Kimball, 1 35

—\$112 85

Non - Resident Taxes.

1860.

Paid Non-resident Taxes worked out, \$66 29

Abatement of Taxes.

JOHN S. COUCH'S LIST.

1867.

James Gerah, poll tax, left town, \$4 45

Hazen Currier, " " 4 45

Alfred Severance, " " 4 45

Nathaniel Smart, " " 4 45

E. A. Dunham, " 11 72

Oliver Morse, unable,	4 45
Dudley Marston, paid in Massachusetts,	4 45
James Buchanan, over taxed	1 85
Thomas Lane, unable,	4 65
Richard H. Currier, taxed wrong,	7 58
	-----\$52 50

JAMES M. KENT'S LIST.

1868.

Nathaniel Smart, poll tax, left town,	2 36
Freeman Brown, " "	2 15
Buswell A. Follensby, " "	2 15
Hazen Courier, " "	2 15
Moses Watson, " "	5 90
C. Boyce, unable,	2 15
Dr. John Bell, paid in Dover,	2 15
Wm. S. Greenough, paid in Mass.,	2 15
Town Farm tax,	27 95
	-----\$49 11

1869.

Dudley C. Swain, poll tax, for 1868,	2 15
Hazen Courier, poll tax, left town,	2 40
Alonzo Robie, " died,	2 40
Charles Batchelder, paid in Raymond,	2 53
John T. Lovett, paid in Mass.,	2 40
Lauren Bradley, " "	2 40
Henry Fellows, " "	2 40
Town Farm tax,	31 98
Henry Moore, money wrongly taxed, for	
heirs of Page Smith,	1 40
Wm. P. W. Whittemore, heifer died,	40
Mrs. Jas. D. Bell, money wrongly taxed,	4 60
	-----\$55 06

Printing and Stationery.

1869.

Paid C. F. Livingston, for town accounts,	\$30 00
C. F. Livingston, " printing warrants	
and other blanks,	4 50
B. W. Sanborn, for books and stationery,	3 00
T. J. Melvin, for stationery,	1 00
Express bills,	45
Wm. Crawford, for postage and stationery,	75
D. L. Gurnsey, for Town Treasurer's book,	1 50
Wm. H. Fisk, for binding old books,	4 50
	————\$45 70

Cemetery and Hearse.

1869.

Paid George W. Wilcomb, sexton,	\$3 00
Jonathan Pressy, shingling hearse house,	2 30
C. S. Wilcomb, for 1 1-2 M shingles,	4 50
James R. Gordon, for repairing hearse	
and tools,	1 60
	————\$11 40

State and County Taxes.

1869.

Paid State Tax,	\$1,902 00
County Tax,	1,131 00
	————\$3,033 00

Miscellaneous.

1869.

Paid Wm. Crawford, for getting Town Re-	
ports printed,	\$4 50
James R. Gordon's bill,	1 15
	————\$5 65

School Money.

1869.

Paid District No. 1,	\$234 80
" 2,	120 40
" 3,	139 60
" 4,	55 60
" 5,	44 50
" 6,	43 60
" 7,	62 00
" 8,	75 60
" 9,	38 00
" 10,	36 40
" 1, in Auburn,	14 50
	<hr/> \$865 00

Collector.

1869.

Paid James M. Kent, for collecting taxes,	\$100 00
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Town Clerk.

1869.

Paid William Greenough,	\$15 00
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Town Treasurer.

1869.

Paid William Greenough,	\$25 00
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School Committee.

1869.

Paid Rev. H. W. Day,	\$40 00
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Selectmen's Services.

1869.

Paid William Crawford,	\$40 00
Charles S. Wilcomb,	40 75
James D. Lane,	28 50
	<hr/> \$109 25

Selectmen's Expenses.

1869.

Paid William Crawford,	\$10 00
Charles S. Wilcomb,	5 00
James D. Lane,	7 00
	—————\$22 00

Sheep killed by Dogs.

1868.

Paid Clark B. Hall, for 4 sheep,	\$10 00
Lewis Kimball, for 1 sheep,	3 00
John H. Smith, " 1 "	4 00
William H. Fellows,	4 00
	—————\$21 00

School-House Tax.

1869.

Paid Moses Webster, in Dist. No. 2,	\$50 00
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Running Town Line.

1869.

Paid John Kelley, Surveyor,	\$4 45
Charles S. Wilcomb,	2 83
James D. Lane,	2 33
	—————\$9 61

Auditors' Services.

1869.

Paid John W. Noyes,	\$2 00
Lucien Kent,	2 00
James R. Gordon,	2 00
	—————\$6 00

Paid David L. Batchelder's bill for Select-
men's and Auditors' expenses,

\$3 50

Use of room, 6 days,

3 00

—————\$6 50

**Expense of selling Town Farm and Personal
Property, and settling with Purchasers.**

1869.

Paid Wm. P. Underhill, for appraising Farm,	\$2 00
John S. Couch, " "	2 00
Ebenezer Marden " "	2 00
Wm. Crawford, for services at Auction,	5 00
Charles S. Wilcomb, " "	4 50
James D. Lane, " "	3 00
J. B. Jones, Auctioneer,	5 00
Thomas J. Melvin, Clerk,	3 00
Wm. Crawford, for stamps for Deed,	2 00
C. F. Livingston, for Posters,	3 00
John B. Clark, for advertising,	5 80
Express bill,	45
	<hr/> \$37 25
	<hr/>
	\$4,847 21
	<hr/> <hr/>

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,	}	<i>Selectmen of Chester,</i>
CHARLES S. WILCOMB,		
JAMES D. LANE,		

*Account of the sale of***TOWN PROPERTY.**

1869.

April 20. Town Farm sold for	\$3750 00
Personal Property, for	1071 04
	<hr/> \$4,821 04

The whole amount of the above has been paid into the
Town Treasury.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,

OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

Receipts.

1869.			
April 26.	By cash received of county,	\$112 30	
Oct. 21.	“ “ “	151 89	
		<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>	\$264 19
	“ drawn from the Treasury,	649 66	
		<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>	\$913 85
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Expenditures, for support of Poor off the Farm.

1869.		
<i>Paid for Hazen Mills and wife,</i>		
City of Portsmouth, for board and		
Medical aid,	\$271 70	
Benj'n Davis, for time and expense		
to Portsmouth,	5 00	
Wm. Crawford, for time and expense		
to Portsmouth twice after Mills		
and wife,	14 00	
Charles S. Wilcomb, for time and ex-		
pense to Portsmouth,	15 00	
	<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>	\$305 70

Paid for Thomas Lane.

1869.

Henry Moore, for supplies furnished
Lane, ending April, 1. 1869,

13 69

 \$319 39
Poor on Farm.

Paid John G. Hall, for services,	\$26 85
Keziah Cowdry, “	25 00
Mrs. Moses Webster, “	88 33
Henry Moore, for supplies,	27 05
Hook & Learnard, for meat,	33 87
Moses Webster, “ supplies,	14 06
John S. Emery, “ mending shoes,	1 50
T. J. Melvin, “ supplies,	114 24
“ “ clothing for	
County poor,	17 14
Dr. J. F. Brown, “ medical aid,	16 65
T. J. Melvin, supplies for Peter Huse,	7 50
D. L. Batchelder, keeping transient poor,	4 50
C. S. Wilcomb, moving County poor,	6 00
“ “ goods and	
Town poor,	9 25
C. S. Wilcomb, repairing barrels,	1 00
Wm. Crawford, moving County poor,	6 00
April 26.	
“ going to Exeter after	
County money,	5 00
Oct. 21.	
Wm. Crawford, to Portsmouth, ditto,	5 00
D. Currier, blacksmith work,	62

W. W. Stickney, for advice relative to E. Hall,	1 00
William Crawford, for time looking up residence of E. Hall,	1 00
Dr. J. F. Brown, for medical aid,	20 50
James Shirley, for boarding Mrs. Mills, 17 weeks, at \$2 50 per week, from Oct. 1. to Jan'y 28, 1870,	42 50
Mary A. Bean, for boarding Joseph Rand, 20 weeks, at \$2 50 per week, Sep. 11. to Jan. 29. 1870,	50 00
George M. West, for boarding Samuel Whittemore, 18 weeks, at \$2 50 per week, from Oc. 1. to Feb. 4. 1870,	45 00
Wm. Crawford, services as Overseer,	5 00
Freight on Mills' goods,	6 40
George M. West, for pasturing cow,	6 00
Coolidge and Pressy, digging grave, &c., for J. Carr,	1 50
J. L. Lovett, coffin for J. Carr,	6 00
	<hr/> \$594 46
	<hr/> \$913 85

Names of Persons supported by the Town at the present time.

Joseph Rand, Samuel Whittemore,
Mrs. Hazen Mills.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD

Overseer of the Poor.

Dr. The Town of Chester in account with William Greenough, Town Treasurer. Cr.

1869.

To paid for printing and stationery,	\$59 95
Non-resident taxes worked out,	65 29
Breaking roads,	120 16
State Tax,	1902 00
County Tax,	1131 00
For improvement on highways,	99 09
Abatement of taxes, J. S. Couch's list 1867,	52 50
Collecting taxes, 1869, James M. Kent,	100 00
Town Clerk's services,	15 00
Town Treasurer's services,	25 00
Superintending School Committee,	40 00
Selectmen's Services,	109 25
Selectmen's Expenses,	22 00
School money,	855 00
Town debts, and endorsements on notes,	15,866 99
School-house tax, Dist. No. 2,	50 00
Care Cemetery and hearse-house,	9 80
For appraising Town Farm,	6 00
Abatement of taxes, J. M. Kent's list, 1868,	49 11
" " " " 1869,	55 06
For perambulating Town line,	9 61
" Expenses selling Town Farm,	22 50
" Recording Deed,	85
" Sheep killed in 1868,	44 50
Joseph Chase, interest on money hired,	11 00
For support of poor, on and off the farm,	913 85
D. L. Batchelder's bill, per order,	6 50
Auditors' bill, for services,	6 00
Cash in hands of Treasurer,	2,459 22
	<u>\$24,118 23</u>

By balance in Treasury last year,	\$1,962 75
Cash of J. S. Couch, balance of tax, 1867,	1,328 69
J. M. Kent, on tax list of 1868,	949 11
J. M. Kent,	5,052 08
Edwin Hazelton, for Note,	106 00
J. S. Couch, for int't on tax list, 1867,	30 00
Charles H. Kent, use of Town Hall,	20 00
Property sold at Almshouse, of Selectm'n,	927 80
hired of Ira Sanborn,	200 00
Mar. 26. hired of William D. Knowles,	100 00
Apr 10. hired of Julia A. Sanborn,	55 00
May 4. hired of Ira Sanborn,	100 00
June 29. hired of Walter H. Noyes,	75 00
July 30. hired of Philip Novell,	1,000 00
Sep. 21. hired of George W. Wilcomb,	669 10
Oct. 13. hired of Jonathan Pressy,	150 00
Oct. 20. hired of Martha W. Webster,	80 00
Nov. 4. hired of Joseph Chase,	1,100 00
Nov. 22. hired of William D. Knowles,	150 00
Dec. 11. hired of Noah S. Clark, (4 mos.) [paid]	2,000 00
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	2,177 08
3. hired of Mrs. E. K. Cheswell,	900 00
15. hired of Parker Morse,	141 85
1870.	
Jan. 5. hired of Sarah Shaw,	300 00
5. hired of Martha A. Hatch,	132 85
15. hired of Daniel Sanborn,	677 00
18. hired of George Moore,	600 03
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	800 90
7. hired of William Moore,	100 90
Feb. 11. hired of Sarah E. Mullet,	1,562 50
Cash of Samuel S. Morse, in part for Town Farm,	227 87
Feb. 15. Savings Bank tax, 1869,	95 80
" Railroad tax, 1869,	52 40
" Literary Fund, 1869,	24 38
" J. M. Kent, for int't on tax list, 1868,	6 78
18. Received for int't on money lent,	264 19
" Wm. Crawford, for County paupers,	
	<u>\$24,118 23</u>

STATEMENT.

The town owes the following debts, interest cast to February 15th, 1870:

	Jane R. Brown,	\$708 47
1862.		
Dec. 2.	John Lane,	101 45
1864.		
June 18.	Robert Rogers,	401 25
July 25.	Sally A. Hazelton,	52 18
30.	Mary Sanborn,	173 22
Aug. 8.	Asa Sanborn,	133 81
Sep. 17.	Samuel H. Quincy,	391 35
17.	Samuel H. Quincy,	180 64
1865.		
Jan. 28.	E. E. Rogers,	133 81
Feb. 6.	A. P. Greenough,	669 11
6.	Elzira F. Nichols,	283 19
Mar. 23.	Henry Moore,	82 64
April 1.	John Lane, 2nd,	344 20
6.	Betsey Pressy,	66 91
July 3.	F. R. Stevens,	130 66
8.	John G. Hall,	103 62
1866.		
Jan. 8.	Daniel S. Brown,	88 37
Feb. 17.	Abigail R. Currier,	1908 00
	William D. Knowles,	151 48
April 14.	John G. Hall,	105 00
	Ephraim Orcott,	497 84
Nov. 19.	Sarah D. Moore,	241 62
20.	Ira Sanborn,	1207 87
28.	Eliaphalet Colburn,	3618 95

	Mary A. Dearborn,	371 59
	William R. Little,	619 32
1867.		
Jan. 27.	Matilda S. True,	71 66
April 9.	Benjamin Webster,	235 51
Mar. 21.	Lucy Ann Green,	591 85
July 30.	Mary H. Seavey,	580 13
Aug. 31.	John Ordway,	1089 41
Sep. 2.	Philip Nowell,	513 58
1868.		
Jan. 2.	William D. Knowles,	169 73
April 7.	Laura Spaulding,	169 38
June 18.	Ephraim Orcutt,	550 93
Sep. 26.	John Ordway,	1084 55
Oct. 20.	Sarah E. Mullet,	1403 27
	20. Susan J. Mullet,	481 71
Dec. 3.	Sarah Shaw,	96 45
Dec. 30.	George Moore,	1712 80
1869.		
Feb. 1.	Ira Sanborn,	212 50
Mar. 24.	William D. Knowles,	105 35
	26. Ira Sanborn,	210 63
April 10.	Julia A. Sanborn,	57 80
May 4.	Ira Sanborn,	105 18
June 29.	Walter H. Noyes,	77 72
July 30.	Philip Nowell,	1032 50
Sep. 21.	George W. Wilcomb,	686 49
Oct. 13.	Jonathan Pressy,	153 05
	20. Martha W. Webster,	81 52
Nov. 4.	Joseph Chase,	1118 52
	22. William D. Knowles,	152 07
Dec. 3.	Elizabeth K. Cheswell,	910 50

Dec.	11.	Noah S. Clark, (on 4 mos.)	2021 33	paid.
	11.	Noah S. Clark, (on 6 mos.)	2200 30	
	15.	Parker Morse,	143 27	
1870.				
Jan.	5.	Sarah Shaw,	302 00	
	5.	Martha Hatch,	133 74	
	7.	Daniel Sanborn,	682 19	
	7.	William Moore,	805 07	
	18.	George Moore,	603 00	
Feb.	11.	Sarah E. Mullet,	100 00	
			<hr/>	\$33,412 24

The following sums are due the town:

From J. M. Kent, on tax list, 1868,	136 89
“ “ 1869,	1747 77
The United States,	1115 00
Note vs. J. West & S. F. Learned,	8 44
Two Notes vs. Samuel S. Morse, amounting to (Feb. 15.)	2342 17
Sundry notes & bills for property sold at Almshouse,	143 24
Cash in the hands of Treasurer,	2460 22
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	\$7,953 73
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Balance against the town,	\$25,458 51
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WILLIAM GREENOUGH,

Town Treasurer.

CHESTER, February 20th, 1870.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the Selectmen's, Overseer of the Poor, and Town Treasurer's accounts for the year past, and find the same correctly cast, with proper vouchers for the several charges.

JAMES R. GORDON,	} <i>Auditors.</i>
LUCIEN KENT,	
JOHN W. NOYES,	

Deaths for the year ending April 1st, 1869.

Name.	Day of death.	Age.
John Hazelton,	Dec. 29, 1867.	85.
Elizabeth Hazelton,	Feb. 16, 1868	40.
Hannah Hall,	Mar. 11,	81.
Peter Hazelton,	17,	85.
Susan B. Hazelton,	22,	76.
John Dunlap,	June,	77.
Jacob Couch,	6,	76.
Anna E. Purvere,	11,	71.
Laura K. Moore,	July 3,	12.
Nathaniel R. West,	3,	63.
Samuel Wason,	4,	83.
Jacob Green,	17,	72.
Josiah Forsaith,	Aug. 18,	85.
Col. James Towle,	18,	54.
Clarissa Hazelton,	Dec. 7,	
Asa Noyes,	Jan. 1869.	87.
Rhoda Wilson,	17,	70.
Samuel Hazelton,	26,	82.
Ichabod Randall,	Feb. 11,	31.
Henry A. Edwards,	Mar. 21,	3 months.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

TO THE PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND VOTERS, OF THE
TOWN OF CHESTER, N. H.

Your Committee would respectfully report, for the year ending March 8th, 1870, on the Schools, with remarks on studies, books, school-houses, and grounds; also, on the importance of a High School for the advantage of the more advanced pupils. An imperative demand will sooner or later be made on the country, for men to sustain and protect our Institutions and Liberties, and guide the Ship of State. Nor is it least desirable, that we continue to send forth from the old town of Chester, men, who shall honor its name, and make their mark on the sands of time.

Our Report will not be a model of composition; unless it be, to exemplify all the rules of Blair and Kames. Limited space compels the use of the laconic style.

Our predecessors did much, and we have found much to do in the schools. They are generally backward, and small, with exceptions: very few good readers: not a dozen who could be marked up to more than 8 in

The Scale of Proficiency.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Beginning	Commenced	Elementary	Bad	Very poor	Poor	Tolerable	Good	Very good	First rate	Excellent

For the explanation of figures, 7, 8, 9, &c., in the Reports, see above Scale. Seven-tenths of the scholars have not been through "Compound Numbers." Twenty might mark up to 8 in Arithmetic. Grammar was, or is to be:—nothing now; but few over 4: perhaps forty in all the schools! The fault is principally in the teacher. Few conceive the difference between teaching the book, and teaching the Science. Most look on Grammar as a mixed landscape, full of everything, and see nothing in particular. Different books are only different teachers of the same Science; they call the same things by different names, hence confusion without adding to knowledge. Better go back to Murray for names. Classes in Grammar have done well as far as they have gone.

Our Teachers have all worked hard; a number of worthy young ladies. Two or three have not come off with a crown of laurels, but "Have done what they could." Several complain, and all might, of the want of interest on the part of parents.

PARTICULAR REPORT OF EACH SCHOOL.

District No. 1. Village. Money appropriated \$234,60.

Prudential Committee, LUCIEN KENT.

Spring Term.—Teacher, Miss LAURA A. KNIGHT. No one passed a better examination, yet the school was not "a success." We marked the first call, "quiet, and good order; appearances favorable." The last day, about one-half of the scholars were absent! The recitations and order were good, and the improvement all that could be expected. This is one of our most difficult schools to govern and instruct, and no small responsibility rests on parents, to cast their influence in the right direction. This school should have one teacher for the three terms: get the best.

Second: Summer Term.—Teacher, Miss L. JENNIE HUNTON. A faithful, earnest and successful instructor, and firm to govern. We do, as she suggests, bear in mind, "The prevailing Cough," which diminished her numbers, and made her duties unpleasant; but she closed, retaining the love of her pupils, and the approbation of the committee. A fine writer, perfect Register, and some excellent remarks. Advantages considered, this school is backward in all the branches. The lads and misses must love their studies more, and parents help at home. "Too much play, makes Jack a mere ———." *Good class —*

Third: Winter Term.—Teacher, Miss E. A. WOODBURY. A kind hearted, well qualified instructor, and loved by her pupils: laborious, willing to explain, and successful in advancing them in their studies. But there was too much noise and disorder, requiring a firmer government, and implicit obedience to good rules, to make it a first rate school. Examination satisfactory in most respects. Writing, 6. From "Notes; Order, 7; Recitations in Arithmetic, 10; Grammar, to the verb, 10; general progress, very good." A pretty song by four young ladies. But where were 26 of the scholars? Only 19 present! The blame must attach mainly to parents. The Prudential Committee deserves thanks for his faithful discharge of duties. All the teachers of the several terms, we consider truly worthy and superior in their profession.

District No. 2. Derry Road. Money, \$120,40.

Prudential Committee, DALLAS O. COUCH.

First: Spring Term.—Teacher, Miss LIZZIE H. FITTS. The best on our list. She says, in substance, "We have tried to do all we could. All the scholars but one, and one or more members of their families, were at the examination. Some having left, the school does not sustain its former high reputation for scholarship." She reports fifty-four visitors; and besides other studies, one in Book-keeping, and one (!) in Grammar. Order, and progress, all that could be desired; in short, an excellent school, a perfect Register, and a pretty song which must not be forgotten.

Second: Fall Term.—Teacher, Miss CELESTIA GOLDSMITH. Well qualified. There can be no progress without order, and teachers must be judges of the best means of securing it. Where there is no disobedience, there will be no correction. Insubordination is ruin, and must not be tolerated. Iron rule is better than anarchy; if too severe, there is a remedy without disorder. Scholars should obey, and parents should sustain the teacher in the enforcement of good rules, and the keeping good order. It is best to do right, and keep out of trouble. The examination of half the school was perfectly satisfactory. Good order, and Reading, 9. First-rate in Greenleaf's Common School, through Cube Root. Geography, 10. Had all been present, and done their best, the character of the school would have been well sustained, and all much pleased.

District No. 3. Money, \$139,60.

Prudential Committee, LUTHER FITTS, Esq.

First: Spring Term.—Teacher, Miss LIZZIE S. HAZELTON. Closing earlier than was expected, the Committee was out of town the last day. Our first call produced a favorable impression. There was good order, the classes were well arranged, and well instructed. This is an apology for a school-house: painful and unhealthy for children; their feet hanging from two to six inches from the floor; trying to sit on seats inclining forward from 5 to 10 degrees. No Black-boards, no Outline maps, and "no nothing" for comfort. The teacher must write standing up: scholars bending over 45 degrees! She says, "The school has been profitable, and good progress has been made in all the branches." A perfect Register.

Second: Winter Term.—Teacher, Miss MARIANNA P. CLARK. If there are two, she is one of our best: thorough in discipline, instruction, and in *morals*; matters to which teachers give too little attention. Hence, a most satisfactory examination; scarcely opening a book in Grammar, Geography and Arithmetic. This is the way it should be the last day: without books, a happy, well-instructed school, ready to tell what they have learned, and what they know.

No Composition or Speaking? Order 10; all interested. Excellent recitations; Reading, 8; and, ready answers in all the classes. Great improvement in Writing. How can one teach writing, who cannot write himself? Willie Dennis has the best writing book in town. The offices of Town Clerk, Postmaster General, and Secretary of State, will want men bye and bye. But for absentees, (ten scholars,) there would have been nothing to mar the pleasure of the occasion. This is a growing evil; the fault of parents, and will hurry on the enactment of compulsory laws; for, we must be behind Prussia, and States in our own country, until we can prevent the vagrancy of truants, by compelling attendance at school. It should not be, that a few scholars can so injure a school, and so blight the prospect of its benefits, for which others labor hard, and pay taxes to sustain. Better employ this teacher again: the Committee would have done so, had he the power.

District No. 4. Sleeper. Money, \$55,60.

Prudential Committee, ASA WILSON.

First: Summer Term.—Teacher, Miss LIZZIE K. HALL. This was also a well-conducted and successful school. The teacher was interested, sparing no pains to advance her pupils. First appearances brightened toward the last. Reading, 7. Speaking, encouraging. Order, 9; Arithmetic, 10. Register, ———. All the branches well taught. Examination with the “extras,” very satisfactory.

Second: Fall Term.—The same teacher. The improvement of the last term marked the commencement of this, and continued to the close. The spirit of the teacher was infused into the scholars, so we have seldom seen a more pleasant and successful examination. The marks were all raised, and the *morals* of the pupils looked after. We had speaking, composition, dialogues, and drawing of maps; highly to the credit of the teacher for her unwearied endeavors, and the praise of her scholars. This is the way schools should close; all there; parents, and friends, and sorry to part. A private school (the only one) continued some weeks longer.

District No. 5. Borough. Money, \$44,50.

Prudential Committee, WILLIAM WEEKS.

Summer Term.—Teacher, Mrs. MARY J. DOLBE. This school closed July 26th. From “Notes, made then; Appears well, Writing, 10; a good and faithful teacher. Best recitations I have heard in any school: best in tables of Weights and Measures: best improvement in Writing. Grammar, 9, to the verb. Geography, both classes, 11. Register, 7. A pretty song.” All the studies were prosecuted with complete success. Others would have done better, had they followed the suggestions of the Committee. Employ her again.

District No. 6. Towle. Money, \$43,60.

Prudential Committee, DAVID FRENCH.

Summer Term.—Teacher, Miss MARY A. MARDEN. Good order, good attention and fair progress, characterized this school. In Greanleaf’s Com’n School, to Square Root, 10; Geography, 8. An interesting school, and a satisfactory examination. Blessings be on this youthful instructor. Practice makes perfect.

District No. 7. Walnut Hill. Money, \$62,00.

Prudential Committee, EDWIN HAZELTON.

Summer Term.—Teacher, Miss SUSIE D. HAZELTON. One of our best schools; a fine examination. From “Notes, house trimmed for the occasion; very orderly; teacher has taken pains to do her best. Grammar, to verb, 9. One class nearly through Greenleaf’s Com’n School, 10; Reading, 8; Composition, 9; Map-drawings quite tastefully painted, 9. Speaking and dialogues, very satisfactory; School paper, “Walnut Hill Gazette, 10.” An active teacher; school deeply interesting, and progress uncommonly good. The occasion was much enjoyed by all present. Let every teacher and school, take pains to make examination day, a scene worthy to be remembered; an honor to all concerned.

District No. 8. Knowles. Money, \$75,60.

Prudential Committee, SETH LANE.

First: Summer Term.—Teacher, Miss SARAH P. WEBSTER. Very active and untiring in her efforts to advance her pupils, and quite successful in all the branches. We were much pleased with the recitations and ready answers to all our questions. Her teaching Geography to all the school from the out-line maps, we would advise to others. This examination we put down among the best.

Second: Fall Term.—The same teacher. Not being informed of the time of day; the Committee went as usual in the afternoon, and found the school had closed in the forenoon. The Register we mark 10. But cannot say all the good things, which, probably might be said. George A. Dolber;—not a single mark against him during the term. Some stand highest in deportment; others in recitation. Miss W. and two or three others of our younger teachers, are aiming to deserve the highest honors in their profession. "Labor vincit omnia."

District No. 9. Sanborn. Money, \$38,00.

Prudential Committee, LEWIS SANBORN.

Summer Term.—Teacher, Miss JULIA A. SANBORN. Every thing about this small school was first rate. The teacher, most worthy and faithful. In the familiar examination, we enjoyed a pleasant afternoon, with scholars who were prompt and correct in their answers to our many questions. From "Notes; Miss S. has done first rate; a small school; but one of the best taught in town." One lad had mastered Greenleaf; others well advanced in Arithmetic, Grammar and Geography. Reading, 9. Only think! But one school of ten weeks, in a year, and so much done! Daniel Webster had some of his early training in an old school house in N. H.

District No. 10. Lane. Money, \$36,40.

Prudential Committee, STEPHEN PINGREE.

Teacher, Miss MARTHA B. LANE. Young and inexperienced, she made a good beginning. There will always be room for improvement: but practice makes perfect. The class in Colburn, did remarkably well, and advancement was seen in all the branches. Young persons should avail themselves of the advantages of our "Teachers' Institute." We would encourage them; but they should make every possible effort to qualify themselves, for the responsible position of training minds to rule the land: for so it may be, in a school of a half dozen scholars. To realize this responsibility and make due preparations to meet it, should inspire untiring endeavors.

REMARKS ON

SCHOOL-MONIES: SCHOOLS: STUDIES: BLACKBOARDS
AND MAPS: HIGH SCHOOL: SCHOOL HOUSES AND
GROUNDS: PARENTS: TEACHERS: PRUDENTIAL
COMMITTEE: SUPERINTENDING COMMITTEE
AND LAST WORDS.

School Monies. Amount received from Lit. Fund last year, \$100,00. This year, \$56,65. Raised by the town, \$808,35. Total, \$865,00.

Besides the appropriations to our schools, \$14,50. to No. 1, Auburn. Every pupil in town of 4 yrs. and upward, should be sent to school at least two weeks, as required by law, to draw money from the Literary Fund; which is equally divided among the Districts.

School tax comes back to the families, in the heads of our children. We therefore recommend, that the town raise a more liberal sum, or equalize, in some way, to favor the small schools, which imperatively demand more money. Two have had only eleven weeks each: one had ten; one but nine weeks schooling in the year! No. 5, \$44,50. No. 6, \$43,60. No. 9, \$38,00 and No. 10, only \$36,40: less than the year before, \$39,06: while No. 1. \$234,80;—42cts.

more, than last year! Is this quite right? Your Committee has no authority in the matter, but, as a sort of *town-conscience*, would prompt to a more liberal treatment of the small schools. What say to \$1,000,00 for the coming year? What are bridges to boy's heads? Roads and high-ways to immortal minds? Houses and lands to the value and importance of education? Town Reports, to the vast importance of advising, considering and prosecuting every consistent means, for training up the rising generation? Don't ask misers and misanthropes; but men, who see the gathering clouds, and the crested waves rolling, and dashing at our very doors! Who loves the home of his choice, or is proud of his native town? Let him vote to raise the standard of education and fill the school-houses; that Chester, may continue to sit Queen among the hills and send forth her sons and daughters, not a whit behind the best.

Schools. The progress in the small and short schools, has been better, than in the large and longer ones. Where there is but one term in the year, let it be in the spring, closing before the hot weather: or, in the fall, closing before November. When there are three terms,—better that the last close early in the winter: the first commence in April.

"Suitable Studies and classification of the schools, should be prescribed by the School Committee," as the Law suggests: specially for the more advanced pupils. Few parents know what studies are best for their children. Their wishes should be regarded.

On Book-keeping, we need a small work in the hands of every scholar, able to write a tolerable hand; who has advanced through Division:—more important than Grammar or Geography: one of three studies and finished in one Term. Most important for a young person, entering the world: or, as a help to business.

It furnishes the best means of learning to write; all the copying being from copper-plate writing, exemplifying a business and fashionable hand.

On Agriculture, we need a small work, the study of one or two Terms. No study is more desirable for our country

schools, the cost, next to nothing; the time to master it, not a sixth, required for Colburn: the value of the information invaluable. Different soils would meet the eyes of pupils, going to and from school. Every man who has a patch of land as large as his house, should know the contents of such a book. It would not hurt the girls: for, like it or not like it, we are fast following in the wake of the "Old Countries," where mothers and daughters help till the soil.

School books not adapted. How much to be deplored by the country people:—that about all school books, have a tendency to scatter our children to the four winds, or to allure them to the great cities and towns;—rather than to make them love their free mountain air. It is not true, that we have no lands, nor farms, nor happy homes, and places to make more among the hills of New Hampshire. Much of this disquiet and roving thought, arises from the fact, that, about all our school books are written by authors in the cities: who know next to nothing of the real wants of our great farming community: hence, all the illustrations, propositions and questions in different branches, are suggested by city, mercantile, or professional life. Books for the country, should be well spiced with references to country things and affairs: about houses and barns, fences, flocks and herds, milk, dairies, hay, produce, fertilizers, lumber, hills and vallies, high-ways, bridges and agriculture: making money on little as well as large matters, poultry, eggs, butter and cheese, nuts, berries and other ways: drawing illustrations in favor of country life. In short, if there is any advantage, it should be, how the hard working farmer can out-wit the vultures in politics, in commerce and professional life, who have their fingers half the time in his pockets, and the rest of the time making laws and books for him and his children: he to pay his taxes and be satisfied! Wake up, ye noble country men, and educate your sons for farmers. We want books made for the country, in favor of the country, and not *for* and in the *interest* of the oppressing classes: farmer's Arithmetics and Readers, a farmer's work on Book-keeping as well as a "Farmer's Almanac." And farmers can have them if they will: for, they buy more than five-sixths of all the school books!

Blackboards are so scarce in our schools: one might think lumber came from Alaska. Why such neglect? Will the Prudential Committees see to this at once? So are

Outline Maps. For these "fixings," with globes, charts and a copy of Webster's "Unabridged," Candia has spent \$325,00! Other towns in this county, \$74,00; \$85,00; \$108,00; \$120,00; \$170,00; \$500,00 and so on up to \$1,155,00! Chester has expended the monstrous sum of \$35,00!! How can farmers, mechanics and teachers work without tools?

Books, many of them are old and mutilated; some, *gray* with the age of fifteen years! We have made a change in Geographies, with almost no expense to the schools. This will last five years at least.

In the same branches, the books should be the same in all the schools. This would favor the intermingling of districts, promote advancement and enthusiasm in study: the number of classes should be diminished.

Grammar classes and the highest reading classes, must have Dictionaries. Not one in all the schools in the town of Chester!! Dictionaries are necessary, for determining the parts of speech, for spelling, definitions and in writing composition.

Of a Town High School, there is great need; of at least, one Term in a year, of three months; December, January and February; for more advanced studies and some other kinds; for the best scholars, from all the schools: with term fees, to those from other towns: which might extend the term, buy apparatus: or, possibly pay back to the town, so the school would cost but little. There are young persons in every school in town, who ought to have the advantages of such an institution. There would be no difficulty in securing good teachers, at that time of the year when College vacations generally occur, to say nothing of able teachers nearer home. We *must* educate our young people to rule the Land: to ride on the stormy blasts: to enlighten the ignorant masses: to meet sophistry and preserve our liberties.

What to do first: appoint a committee of three or five, to consider the matter and report, "pro or con." at a future day.

Of School-houses, No. 2, on the Derry Road, is an honor to the District. Well supplied with black-boards and maps; needs a good U. S. map: is painted, has blinds: yes, trees set out: so the boys and girls of future years, will play and rejoice in the beautiful shade. To other Districts, we say, "Go and do likewise."

If "Monarch of all he surveys," your Committee would order the demolition of No. 3, Brick, and the erection of a suitable place for children and teachers. How much the surroundings of a child have to do with character! A house, trees and pleasant grounds, have been the redeeming circumstances in a boy's life; whose home was poor and desolate. Other houses need repairs and trees, and paint, and seats altered: how little expense and how great comfort to the children! No. 1, looks shabby and dirty, inside, outside and all around it: cellar windows! and shameful back conveniences. School-houses should be in quiet and retired situations.

An important question:—What shall be done with this school? Seventy five scholars reported, and, probably, thirty six weeks schooling the coming year. There were sixty one pupils last, and twenty nine and a half weeks. No teacher can do justice to any such school. If the District would call a meeting immediately, the long talk on this subject might be brought to a successful close, in doing one of four things: **1.** Finding relief and extra advantages in a Town High School. **2.** Nos. 1 and 3 unite in a good plan for both. **3.** No. 1, move and act for themselves—grade the school. **4.** Do *nothing*, like an indolent farmer, who lets things go to "wreck and ruin." Results of the last three terms are not satisfactory;—using up \$233,38. The old adage lies: "New brooms do not sweep clean." Things *can* be bettered. The two districts the past year drew \$374,40. With so much money, great things could be done for our youth—124 scholars! How hard to rouse the public mind; unless you set a house on fire, or lose a child.

What is the destruction of a house to moral and intellectual desolation? The loss of a child, to the ruinous neglect of a hundred? Read in the future the blessings. Hundreds of young people shall call you blessed.

Sections 20 and 21, of the "General Statutes," say:—"Any district may by vote or by committee, divide the scholars, according to their age, acquirements, and residence, or either, and direct under what teacher they shall be instructed. If a district refuse or neglect to make such division, it may be made by the School Committee."

Parents should supply books: should visit the schools and attend the examinations and not allow their children to absent themselves. Tardiness and truancy will be ruinous if not checked. Several schools, it is feared, have been injured by unwise interference. Nearly all school troubles arise from disobedience, which parents should not countenance. The Law requires that every child be vaccinated before attending school. Towns can make regulations, requiring attendance on school, with penalties of fines, not exceeding ten dollars, or committal to the Reform School, not exceeding one year.

Teachers. Two have left the ranks for the home field of responsibility. We hope they may return, like Mrs. D.—to finish a life so well begun. Certificates are only good for the current year. One must be produced to the Prudential Committee before commencing:—and another, at the close, certifying that the Register has been returned to the Sup. School Committee before receiving wages. This is the Law, and it sometimes saves much trouble.

Teachers have authority over pupils, from the time they leave their home, on the way to school, during school hours, at recess, and until they return to their homes: and can punish in school, for improper language spoken against the school or teacher at any time. *A Court decision.* A poor writer cannot make good writers of others. Teachers should answer every question in the Register, as the Law requires. What they "don't know," they must find out: must not confine themselves to teach the book, but the science. The book is only another teacher.

Prudential Committee. One who takes pains to get good teachers, should be kept in office. He should not fail to visit and look after the school: should dust off the cobwebs and roll up the maps, at the end of a term. Some nice maps are now nearly ruined by flies: should see that they are unrolled and properly hung when a new term commences: in short, should take care of the school-house, all things in it and around it. Should take great pains to secure a good teacher, of experience and reputation and do it in season. Three weeks of good teaching is better than seven of poor. If he cannot do his duties, he should not accept the office: good teachers are first secured. Sometimes one town gets them away from another: therefore, the

Superintending Committee, should, by vote of the town, be authorized to secure and employ a teacher, as he may have opportunity, for any district. For this a recent law provides: that, "Any town, by a by-law, may provide for the election of a Superintendent of Schools . . . vested with the powers . . . and duties of the School Committee and of the Prudential Committee." Experience and many facts prove this most desirable. In this way, a town may get a corps of first rate teachers and keep them: a great blessing indeed.

Chester Normal Institute. The excellent school, under the charge of Miss E. B. Coolidge, is doing a good work; has four terms a year; is enjoying prosperity and has our best wishes.

Last Words. Your Committee after more than forty days of labor of more than twelve hours each, examining and advising teachers, riding to schools, counseling the children, patiently considering the question of books and studies, writing to publishers and to others, talking with agents, bored through the Post Office, making out a long and difficult Report to the Sup. of Public Instruction and the present one, now gives account of his stewardship; hoping he has done something for the interests of the rising generation: the coming men and women of renown: the trustees and defenders in part, of our great temple of liberty, the home of the oppressed and light of the world.

Fourth of July. Your Committee would suggest, not as a matter of town business, but to all, who are interested in the elevation and mental advancement of our children and youth, the consideration of a brief outline, for a public celebration on the Fourth of July, 1870, by our Schools; teachers, scholars, parents and friends: planned and conducted, in the interests and for the promotion of Education and the enjoyment of our youth. This can easily be done, so as to be a spur to all the teachers and scholars:—awaken an interest in, and tend much to the enlightenment of parents and citizens:—a laudable way of keeping in mind the Declaration of 1776, showing our appreciation of our liberties, and that, with the Divine blessing, we will use means for handing them down to future generations. The smell of powder is passing away. Peace is waving the olive branch over our great country. Now are the days to train the universal mind and shape the destinies of untold millions! Assemble in four divisions under teachers and Marshals at about 9, A. M. march and form in “Hollow Square” around the flag staff: prayer by Chaplain: salute the “stars and stripes” by a speaker: song by children: announcement of the Order of the Day by Chief Marshal: march by Band, to place of Exercises:—Oration, speaking, singing &c. Then re-form and march to the place of refreshments and such other exercises, as a judicious Committee of eight or ten “live men” and ladies shall arrange. Speakers from abroad can be obtained. “If there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think of these things.”

H. W. DAY,

Superintending School Committee.

July 66
John A. McGee

A TABLE OF TEACHERS, TERMS AND SCHOOL ITEMS.

Here is "multum in parvo," much in a little, which all ought to know, about our Schools. Read the columns from top to bottom, observing the Items on the left. Examine the column under the No. of your District, next after reading the Report of your school: then compare the Items of your school with other Schools right and left. Here are results which cost more than a thousand dollars; involving more than a thousand consequences of good or evil, which reach forward more than a thousand years! The blanks in the Table show some places where Teachers failed to keep a perfect Register.

Teachers of Schools and Terms.

Miss E. A. Woodbury.	Sarah P. Webster.	Susie D. Hazelton.	Lizzie K. Hall.	Marianna P. Clark.	Celestia Goldsmith.	L. Jennie Hanton.	Martha B. Lane.	Julia A. Sanborn.	Sarah P. Webster.	Susie D. Hazelton.	Sarah A. Narden.	Mrs. M. G. Dolbe.	Lizzie K. Hall.	Lizzie S. Hazelton.	Lizzie H. Fittz.	Laura A. Knight.
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No. Dis't 1st Ter.											2nd Ter.				3rd			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	7	8	1	t'l

School Items.

Entitled to money,	75	32	49	18	19	16	31	17	8?	6	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	262
Scholars over 4 years,	44	29	38	19	19	9	29	15	8	11	42	23	38	22	25	16	45	†
4 to 14 not attending,			1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	5	8	0	4	0	†	†
Average attendance,	33	21	29	16	14	17	26	13	6	8	30	19	33	14	20	12	33	†
Tardy,	106	69	103	0	4	3	12	2	5	41	124	4	116	4	27	17	82	717
Dismissed,	75	57	106	0	7	1	3	5	1	3	18	2	51	8	5	13	43	400
Not absent a half day,	3	2	1	5	1	7	9	2	2	0	3	4	6	6	9	1	0	†
No. of weeks taught,	9	10	10	6	11	9	7	7	10	11	10	8	10	8	8	7	10	151
Wag's \$ per mo. & bo'rd,	28	23	22	16	16	18	18	20	14	13	28	24	25	16	18	20	30	†
Corp'l punishment,		0	4	0			0	0	0	0	4	4	5	0	2	1	†	†
Visits of citizens,	43	54	11	8	1	30	9	14	3	17	39	27	31	8	31	21	15	362
" " Sch'l Com'tee,	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	4	2	2	2	4	39
" " Prud. "	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	11
Pupils in Reading,	44	29	38	19	19	19	29	15	8	11	43	23	36	25	16	47	†	†
" " Penmanship,	12	21	19	16	7	13	25	14	5	10	23	19	26	20	15	31	†	†
" " Arithmetic,	23	29	21	15	11	13	22	13	4	10	20	20	31	16	20	15	36	†
" " Geography,	13	15	13	8	3	8	13	8	3	5	10	11	15	8	13	10	10	†
" " Grammar,	5	0	5	4	3	2	8	0	3	1	3	7	6	4	8	4	9	†
" " Composition,		0	2	3	3	3	14	4	0	0	8	4	0	2	12	3	6	†
" " Book-keeping,		1	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	2	†
" " History,		3	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	†
" " Physiology,		0	0	0		0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	†
" " Algebra,		0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	†
Teacher taught months,	73	32	22			7	21	13	12	2	47	20	31	21	17	21	†	†
Attended Institutes,		1	1	2		0	0	1	0	0	2	1	5	2	0	1	0	†

N. B. The first Item, is a basis for the apportionment of money to each District, according to valuation of property, "or in such other manner as the Town, at the annual meeting, shall direct." State Law.



